

[1st August 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) The Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources proposes to implement a programme for the electrification of villages in remote and difficult areas in the country during the next 10-11 years. The State-wise targets have not yet been worked out.

Setting up of first Geo-thermal Power Plant in the Country

1132. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the various types of Non-conventional Energy Sources available in the country;

(b) whether Government propose to set up its first geo-thermal power plant in the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any study has been carried out in this regard; and

(e) if so, the details of study and the viability of the said project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) The main non-conventional energy resources include solar, wind, biomass, small hydro power, geo-thermal and ocean and the Ministry have been implementing various programmes and schemes based on these resources.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry have taken up a project on the development of Tattapani geo-thermal fields, Chhattisgarh for power generation. Under the initial phase of this project, a pilot demonstration geo-thermal power plant of 300 kW capacity at an estimated cost of Rs. 4.60 crore will be installed at this site through National Hydro-electric Power Corporation.

(d) and (e) A study sponsored by the Ministry was carried out by National Geophysical Research Institute, Hyderabad at the above mentioned site to ascertain various parameters for installing a geo-thermal power plant of suitable capacity. Based on the recommendations of this study, the above pilot demonstration

power plant is being taken up which will be used for further research in the subject and also help in determining techno-economic viability of such projects.

Renewable Energy Project under India-Canada Environment Facility Initiative

1133. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Canadian Government have granted Rs. 20.2 crore for a renewable energy project in Karnataka under the India-Canada Environment Facility initiative;

(b) if so, the number of villages proposed to be covered under the above project;

(c) whether villages of Bellary Lok Sabha Constituency are being covered under the above project; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI M. KANNAPPAN): (a) Under India-Canada Environment Facility an amount of US\$ 2,495,000/- has been sanctioned for the project. This at the present rupee dollar exchange rate of Rs. 46.37 per dollar, works out to about Rs. 11.57 crore.

(b) 24 villages in Tumkur District are proposed to be covered under the project.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.